

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of fabricating insulation, comprising  
needling polybenzazole (PBZ) fibers into a first felt layer, such felt having an outer mold  
line (OML) surface and an inner mold line (IML) surface;  
needling poly(1,3-phenylene isophthalamide) fibers into the first felt layer;  
forming a gradient in the first felt layer wherein the first felt layer has a higher percentage  
of PBZ fibers in a region adjacent to the OML surface of the first felt than a region adjacent the  
IML surface of the first felt layer;  
affixing a layer of fabric comprised of ceramic fibers to the OML surface of the felt; and  
applying a ceramic coating to the fibers of the fabric layer.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising  
needling poly(1,3-phenylene isophthalamide) fibers into a second felt layer, and needling  
the second felt layer to the IML surface of the first felt.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the fabric is affixed to the OML of the  
first felt layer by needling the felt to the fabric, thereby entangling fibers of the felt with fibers of  
the fabric.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the ceramic coating is applied to the  
fabric prior to affixing the fabric to the first felt layer.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the ceramic coating is applied to the  
fabric subsequent to affixing the fabric to the first felt layer.